



Visit The Whalesong online at: [www.uas.alaska.edu/whalesong/](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/whalesong/)

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## Taking advantage of the SAC Outdoor Activities Program

By Mike Pando  
Whalesong Contributor

You may have noticed the banner up in the cafeteria last month asking students, "What would you want to do in the outdoors?" Outdoor Program Coordinators Phil Sellick and Mike Pando have been listening and have come up with a couple of things to do over spring break. So for those of you who don't have anything planned for the break, check it out! Also keep an eye out for flyers that will be advertising different trips throughout the semester.

What's really cool about going out with the UAS Outdoor Activities Program is that most of the equipment down at SAC is free to use, whereas it normally would have a rental fee. This includes camping equipment, snowboards, cross-country skis, snowshoes, kayaks and the like. It is also a unique opportunity for those of you who do not have a car or are not familiar with the area ,to be able to get out to some really beauti-

ful locations, because transportation is provided. What it basically comes down to is this program was developed for the use and enjoyment of ALL students! These are your student fees at work here.

Some recent trips were out to Eagle Beach at a very high tide with swells crashing, and the Chilkat Mountains as a backdrop; we even had an extra special blue-bird day. Another trip was snowshoeing up to Spaulding Meadows, where some students were able to go running around in the snow for the first time. As we climbed up to the first meadow, a beautiful view of the Lynn Channel appeared behind us, and as we climbed higher and out of the forest of Sitka spruce, a view across the valley looking towards Heitzleman Ridge and Nugget Creek was revealed. Future trips will include some overnight stays in tents as well as cabins, so come on out with some fellow students, make some new friends, see some new things, and take advantage of these trips!



UAS students taking advantage of the outdoors.

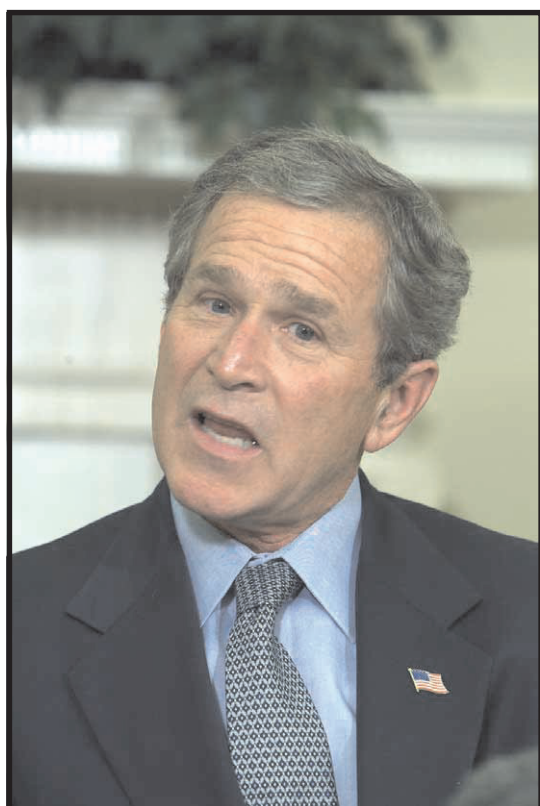


Photo by Chuck Kennedy

Bush will continue to talk to the public about the possibility of war.

## Bush aims to soothe Americans' war worries

By Ron Hutcheson  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

President Bush is stepping up his efforts to rally Americans for war with Iraq as polls continue to show deep misgivings about the prospect of military action.

As part of his outreach to the public, Bush will meet Monday with reporters from 14 regional newspapers. White House aides also are looking at the possibility of a formal prime-time news conference and a speech to the nation explaining his decision to go to war, should it come to that.

Although White House officials declined to discuss Bush's timeline, an invasion order could come as soon as the week of March 10, after the United Nations Security Council votes on a war resolution. U.N. weapons inspectors are set to deliver their latest progress report to the council on Friday (Mar. 7), in advance of the council's war vote.

Bush has repeatedly said that he is prepared to go to war, with or without U.N. support.

Polls indicate that most Americans do not share Bush's determination to oust Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. Although a solid majority of nearly 60 percent say they favor military action, support turns to opposition if the

United States has to act without U.N. support.

The war majority also evaporates at the mention of significant U.S. casualties.

"They're not gung-ho," New York pollster John Zogby said. "The president still has to answer, why now, and, does this make things better or does this make things worse."

Despite Bush's public disdain for polls, he and his advisers are keeping close watch on the national mood in the final countdown to war.

During a recent trip on Air Force One, a senior administration official ticked off the results of more than a dozen war polls, then compared Bush's popularity with that of Ronald Reagan's and Bill Clinton's at the same point in their presidencies.

"But we don't pay attention to the polls," the official joked, after declaring that "White House policy" prohibited any on-the-record poll analysis.as a result of the many public statements the president has made," press secretary Ari Fleischer said. "It's always important in our country to talk to the public about the possibility of war. The president has been doing that and will continue to do that."



# EDITORIAL & OPINION

## The Whalesong

The student voice  
of UAS

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a free bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1000 copies per issue. The Whalesong's primary audience includes students, faculty, staff, and community members.

*The Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas.

The staff of *The Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response. *The Whalesong* editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska, and reflect only those of the author(s).

## Same difference! I could care less 24/7

By Vita Wilson  
Whalesong Staff

“Same difference,” my sister says, “you know what I mean,” when I tell her she used the word *infidelity* incorrectly. She meant to say *infertility*, but that is nothing compared to my other linguistic pet peeves. Even more annoying than using the wrong word (her mistake was due to mere ignorance) is the use of the phrase “same difference.” If it were the same, there wouldn’t be any difference! The phrase is completely nonsensical, yet people use it all the time.

Here’s another one: “I could care less.”

Don’t people really mean that they *couldn’t* care less? The ability to care less implies some level of caring. I’ve mentioned this to some people when they use this phrase, but they could care less, and continue to say they care when they really mean they don’t give a damn.

The next one is nothing but a pop-culture phrase that has become commonplace over the past I don’t know how many years. It’s been several years and I don’t know how it began, but I wish it would fade out of use: “24/7.” I HATE IT! Does *anyone* actually do *anything* “24/7” besides breathe? How did this phrase begin? I have this urge to say it was first heard on the



television show *Roseanne*, but I’m not sure, and those of you who are freshman right out of high school probably have vague memories of that show anyway and grew up with “24/7” as a regular part of your vocabulary.

This next one might not be so widespread, but a co-worker of mine some years ago repeatedly used this phrase while explaining some process. Here’s an example: “I cashed my check at the bank, deposited \$200, paid my bills, turned around and spent \$500 on a deposit for a new apartment, only to turn around and have my apartment deposit check bounce.” Did she in fact physically turn around two times while taking care

of her financial matters? She probably turned around many more times than that, but why say so? What is the point of saying she turned around?

These are only the beginning of my language pet peeves. Don’t get me started on my grammar and punctuation pet peeves. Besides, I know you could care less. Language, grammar, punctuation, same difference, you might say. Maybe you turn around and use all the above words and phrases interchangeably, 24/7. That’s OK, I’ll start where I can, and work on my sister. I explained to her she might not have a problem with infertility, but rather with infidelity. Her response? She could care less.

## Student Ambassadors recruitment begins soon

By Justin Whittington  
Whalesong Contributor

You’ve seen them creeping around in their green coats, clipboards in hand, walking throughout campus. Contrary to popular belief, these are not your local AEL&P electric meter readers, these are the University of Alaska Southeast’s Student Ambassadors!

With kickoff happening in the fall of 2002, the Student Ambassador program has really expanded its horizons! Currently there are five Student Ambassadors: Jamie Atkinson, Sahar Ghorbanpour, Jennifer Loesch, Justin Whittington, and Joel Wolfe.

“The Student Ambassador program is incredible. I’ve been really excited to be a part of it,” said Loesch. “It’s a great feeling to walk around campus and know that I gave a student a ‘prospective student’ tour and now they’re attending UAS. I enjoy knowing that I might have played a small part in that.”

Personally, as a student ambassador, it gives me pride to represent something that I am proud of. One of the most exciting things for me was seeing the same people who

Continued on page 3



Organic Foods: A pollution Solution

Agriculture is the leading non-point source of pollution in the United States. Commercial farming uses chemical fertilizers and pesticides which pollute lakes and streams, deplete the mineral content of soil, and poison farmworkers.

The good news is that organic farming provides a simple safe alternative to commercial agriculture. “Buying organic” supports family farms, encourages biodiversity and helps create a cleaner environment.

At Rainbow Foods, our produce section is 100% organic. We have a large selection of organic bulk, dairy, and grocery items. Try organic foods and become part of a pollution solution.

Open Mon-Fri: 9-7 • Sat: 10-6 • Sun: 12-6  
Located at 2nd and Seward • 586-6476

### Letters to the Editor

The Whalesong gladly accepts letters to the editor. Letters may not exceed 300 words, and may be edited for length, clarity, and grammar. Letters must be signed and include a means of contact for verification. Send your letters to 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801, [whalesong@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:whalesong@uas.alaska.edu), by fax to (907) 465-6399, or bring them to Room 102, Mourant Bldg.



**UAS Leadership Summit 2003****Saturday, March 29****University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau  
Egan Lecture Hall  
8:30-5:30 PM****UAS Leadership  
Summit 2003  
Schedule****8:30-9:00** Check-In  
Continental Breakfast**9:00-9:15** Welcome  
Chancellor John Pugh**9:15-10:15 "Destiny Points"**  
Mindy Hurt,  
Keynote Speaker**10:30-12:00** Workshop #1  
Stand Together: Unity  
through Diversity  
Mindy Hurt  
TEAM = Fun in the Making  
Timi Tullis  
Making Decisions and  
Reflective Judgment  
Paul Kraft & Vicki Orazem**12:00-12:30** Lunch**12:45-2:00** Roundtable  
Discussions**2:15-3:30** Workshop #2  
Get Your Groove On  
Mindy Hurt  
Ethics for Survival  
Elizabeth Schelle  
Making Decisions and  
Reflective Judgment  
Paul Kraft & Vicki Orazem**3:45-4:00** Evaluations**4:00-5:30** Leading A Legacy  
Student Speaker

Join us to learn about  
all the organizations  
and opportunities  
available on campus.  
Two great speakers  
present workshops  
focusing on leadership.  
Please R.S.V.P. to Sahra  
Clark  
by Saturday, March 22nd  
at 465-6528  
or email  
[sahra.clark@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:sahra.clark@uas.alaska.edu)

**Session Synopses****Stand Together: Unity through Diversity**

Oppression has many faces. Hazing, teasing, bullying, negative peer pressure and prejudice are urgent issues on our nation's campuses. Join us as we heighten awareness about sources of oppression and the heavy cost to us as individuals and as a society.

**TEAM = Fun In The Making**

During this workshop we will do hands-on activities that will help us see the value and benefits of working together on the team.

**Making Decisions and Reflective Judgement**

An important part of becoming an educated thinker is learning to make effective decisions. This session will use the case study technique, where participants will be given a short narrative of one or more scenarios that previous student leaders have encountered. The student is expected to analyze the participants' actions and arrive at a judgement.

**Get Your Groove On**

Set yourself in motion and brace yourself for high energy bonding! Create synergy and work to build relationships, network and have fun as you experience icebreakers and energizers that will keep you laughing and learning!

**Ethics for Survival**

This session will look at why stronger ethics are essential to our survival in the 21st century. We will explore the concept of Ethical Fitness as defined by the Institute for Global Ethics.

If you have any questions please  
contact Jamie Atkinson at  
[jamie.atkinson@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jamie.atkinson@uas.alaska.edu)



Sponsored By: UAS Student Government & the Chancellor's Office

**Student Ambassadors continued from page 2**

started friendships at the orientation and are still hanging out around campus. I like to think we played a role in that.

The student ambassadors work very close with the tele-counselors to focus not only on student recruitment but also on student retention. They give tours to prospective students, work with the high school to promote UAS, and are involved in many on and off campus events involving UAS.

For any of you out there who are interested in joining the Student Ambassador team, Jodi Barnes (academic advisor) will begin hiring in a few weeks. To apply you must:

- ◆ Fill out a UA employment application form.
- ◆ Submit a current resume.
- ◆ One-page essay on why the position is desirable to you and what you can contribute to the program.
- ◆ Two letters of recommendation (preferred)

**OR**

- ◆ Names and telephone number of three professional references who are prepared to comment on your professional ability.

There are a possible six or more positions to fill, so don't be shy! If you love to talk, are extroverted, friendly, outgoing, motivated, dependable, hardworking and interested in the future of UAS, then this is the position for you! If you have any questions or would like further information, contact either Jodi Barnes or one of your Student Ambassadors.

**The  
Whalesong  
is running its  
annual short  
story contest!**



- Stories should be 2-3 pages double spaced.
- All stories will be read by the staff and adviser of the Whalesong class. The winner will be chosen by a unanimous vote.
- Stories should be turned in by April 9 or they will not be entered in the contest.
- Submit stories with name (first and last) to the Whalesong office, put it in the drop box at the bottom of the stairs in the Mourant Building, or e-mail to: [whalesong@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:whalesong@uas.alaska.edu)

The winner will receive a UAS sweatshirt and your story and picture (preferably relating to your story) will run in the April 15 edition of The Whalesong.

**The short story theme is:  
"What I did on my  
SPRING BREAK."**

Call us at 465-6434 or stop by our office,  
room 102 in the Mourant Building if  
you have any questions.

**Juneau Job Center****JOB &  
CAREER FAIR**

**Saturday, March 22, 2003  
10:00 - 3:00, Nugget Mall**

*Drop in to learn more about exciting  
career opportunities in our community!*

*If you need resume or interview assistance prior to the Job Fair, then the JAWS Survivor Challenge is for you! Call 465-2987 for more details or accommodations.*



**THE  
j.a.w.s.\*  
"survivor"  
CHALLENGE**

\*Job & Work Search





# FEATURES

## Hawaii comes with a surprise

### Hawaii island reviews

By Emiko Maehara  
Whalesong Contributor

Planning on a vacation in Hawaii? Deciding which island to go? Here is a little review of four major islands of Hawaii for you from me as a BIG Hawaii lover! Let's explore & see what's on Hawaii's Big Island, Kauai, Maui and Oahu.

I start with my favorite island, Big Island of Hawaii, where I usually go to school. I just love the island so much that I say the Big Island is my second home! (My first home is Japan.) If you are the outdoor kind, you should definitely come to the Big Island. It is one of the most diverse islands in the world! You will see the tropical forest on one side of the island and see desert with cactus growing on the other side of the island. You may be able to swim in the ocean and play with the snow on top of the mountain on the same day! It's not a joke! And if you want more

than the usual sandy beach, you can hike to the hidden "greensand beach."

Moreover, now is a really good time for you to go to the Big Island because volcano has been erupting since last May. Although depending on the location of lava flow, sometimes you can go very close up to the flowing lava and feel the heat! It is so cool to see the lava-flow, hot red slime creating the new land! I had never seen anything like that in my life. What great nature!

Are you a backpacker? Do you love hiking? If so, I strongly recommend you the island of Kauai. Kauai is such a beautiful island with a lot of white sand beaches, rice fields, valleys and waterfalls. And you can't miss Waimea canyon. The view is breathtaking. There are hundreds of trails going through the canyon that you can hike on. I remember



Photo courtesy of Emiko Maehara

Whether this photo was taken in the summer or the winter, these waves look wild!

the moment when I stood on an edge of the canyon and looked down the deep, deep valley. It was late afternoon and the sun was shining on us from the other side of the canyon, making the other side of the valley completely dark. It was awesome.

Maui is a pretty island, too. If you go there, I recommend you rent a car and drive to a little town called Hana. Going to Hana is a little bit tough drive with tons of curves, but the scenery is very pretty. On the way there, you will see many waterfalls and valleys. You can also take a break at the beach. It is interesting to see many arch-shaped rocks that were eroded by the strong current. It rains a lot in Hana; however, you may be able to encounter a beautiful rainbow if you were lucky. It was my first time to see the foot of the rainbow!

Oahu is the most well-known and populated island in Hawaii. Even the people who don't know much about Hawaii know Honolulu and

Waikiki, which are located on the southern part of the island. I go there whenever I miss city life. However, my favorite place in Oahu is northshore. Once you get out of the city, the rest of the island is pretty much countryside. Oahu's northshore is famous for surfing championships, and the waves are incredible in winter! I just love to watch the wild waves and world's top class surfers going over those waves! On the other hand, in summer, the ocean is so calm in the north that it almost looks like a piece of cloth.

Although I haven't been to Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, and Niihau (no outsiders can enter this island), which are other major islands in Hawaii, I'd love to visit those islands someday. Each island has its color and it's very fascinating to see it. Above all, people in Hawaii are very warm-hearted that they will welcome you with big aloha. You will feel like you are at home. That's why everybody loves Hawaii and to go back again.

For my last advice, wherever in Hawaii you go, I strongly recommend you go see the sunrise and sunset at the ocean. Oh, it's so beautiful that you will lose a word ... and make sure to master "da kine" talk! Aloha to everyone!

**Saturday, March 8 - Sunday, March 9**

**Tent Overnighter to Bishop Point leaving SAC at 8:00 AM**

**Tuesday, March 11**

**Day Hike/Fishing Trip - Salmon Creek Reservoir leaving SAC at 9:00 AM**

**Thursday, March 13**

**Ski/Snowboard Trip - Eagle Crest Ski Resort - leaving SAC at 8:00 AM**

**Friday, March 14**

**Bar B Q - Auke Rec. leaving SAC 4:00 PM**

**Saturday, March 15 - Sunday, March 16**

**Cabin Overnight - Cowee Meadow leaving SAC at 12 Noon**

For more info contact:

Phil - [jspas3@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jspas3@uas.alaska.edu)

Mike - [jsmap10@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jsmap10@uas.alaska.edu)

**Upcoming Outdoor Activities**

### Student and Community Submissions

Student and community submissions are both welcomed and encouraged at The Whalesong. Send them to 11120 Glacier Hgwy, Juneau, AK 99801, [jywhale@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jywhale@uas.alaska.edu), by fax to (907) 465-6399, or bring them to Room 102, Mourant Bldg.



## Housing leadership opportunity available for fall semester

By Sean Smith  
Whalesong Staff

**B**eer-guzzling freshmen and roommate cat fights are some of the amusing aspects of becoming a Community Advisor (CA) in housing next fall. An informational meeting already took place March 1, but there is another opportunity to learn about the six leadership positions for next fall; March 5 at 9:30 p.m.

Jeff Myers, Residence Hall Coordinator, said this is a position for you if "you like to work with people and positively effect their lives." Myers and other current CA's will be at the meetings to talk about their experiences and what to expect from the position.

While the CA is there to be an enforcer of policy, Myers says the main purpose is to build a sense of community on campus. "Twenty percent of the job is policy enforcement while 80 percent is building community. I expect the CAs to know the majority of the students in housing," Myers said.

Applicants need to have a 2.5 GPA and applications are due before spring break. CAs are granted free housing (about a \$2,000 value) and a waiver for the board cost of about \$1,000.

Rosa Fonseca, a current CA at housing and Leadership Program graduate said, "I took this position for two reasons. One, because I got a free place to stay and two, I got to do something involved in other students' daily lives."

## Alaska Native Oratory Society Contest

By Janice Jackson  
Whalesong Contributor

**O**n March 22, a significant event will occur on our campus. Dan Henry, of the Alaska Native Oratory Society in Anchorage, is organizing a contest at UAS where students may speak about important issues to Alaska Natives, with the chance to win \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place, and \$500 for third place, in each of three events. Similar competitions are being organized at UAA and UAF as well. Students will be able to spend the prize money on educational needs, such as tuition or a computer.

On March 22, between 10a.m. and 5p.m., UAS students will have the opportunity to compete in three events:

- 1) Oratory: A 5-10 minute speech advocating a viewpoint related to a Native Alaska cultural issue using reasoning, elocution and evidence to support the opinion.
- 2) Dramatic Declamation: A 5-10 minute reading or recitation from a historic Native American speech.
- 3) Storytelling: A 5-10 minute telling of an Alaska Native tale from memory or limited notes.

Students will be judged on content, delivery and

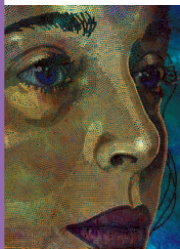
their relationship to the audience. These categories encompass clarity of ideas, use of evidence, organization, relevance to Alaska Natives, enunciation, pronunciation, volume, rate and meaningful movement, courtesy, eye contact, appropriate dress, and relevance of topic.

Members of UAS faculty and administration have agreed to be judges for this event, as well as members of the Alaska Native Brotherhood & Sisterhood, and the Tlingit & Haida Central Council. Most of the judges will be familiar faces for students because they have attended UAS sponsored events and have shown support of UAS students.

The competition is open to all high school students and college students enrolled in at least three hours of college credit. All entrants will compete together at UAS. This all-day event will be concluded with an awards ceremony around 5pm on March 22 at UAS.

Several of our PITAS and Wooncheen students are planning to compete in this event. We're hoping for a big turnout of students, staff, and community members, so please support our students by attending this event.

The registration deadline for this event is March 7. The required information you need to include with the registration application is a speech script, a brief letter from a sponsor, and a \$10 fee. You may pick up a brochure at the Native and Rural Student Center. For more information, you may look at the Alaska Native Oratory Society website at: [www.uaa.alaska.edu/aknos](http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/aknos), or email Daniel Henry at [afdh@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afdh@uaa.alaska.edu).



## Women's History Month Event Schedule

*Women as Mentors, Guides and Facilitators of Change*



### Tuesday, March 4

Lecture by Velma Wallis, author of *"Two Old Women and Raising Ourselves"*, Egan Lecture Hall, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 5

Women's Tea with Senator Georgiana Lincoln - Lake Room, Mourant Building, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 7

Lecture/Workshop with Maria Burton and Gabrielle Burton, Independent Filmmakers, *"Sisterhood in Filmmaking: The Real-life Siblings of Five Sisters Productions on Independent Filmmaking"* - Lake Room, Mourant Building, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Film Screening of *"Manna from Heaven"* and Discussion with Maria Burton and Gabrielle Burton, Independent Filmmakers - 20th Century Twin Theater, 7:00-10:00 p.m.

### Monday, March 17

Lecture by Susan Kollin, *"Gender and Geography in Alaskan Women's Nature Writing"*, Lake Room, Mourant Building, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 21

Lecture by Mary Rojas, *"Apurowak (She Bathes in a Sacred Place): The Didactics of Scratching Sticks in Indigenous Women's Seclusion Practices"*, Egan Library, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 28

Lecture by Jill Frayne, author of *"Starting Out in the Afternoon: A Midlife Journey into Wild Land"* - Egan Library, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

### Saturday, March 29

Lecture by Stephanie Nolen, author of *"Promised the Moon: The Untold Story of the First Women in the Space Race"* - Egan Lecture Hall, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Clarissa Pentecost, [cbpentecost@gci.net](mailto:cbpentecost@gci.net), 209-2085

# People & Entertainment

## Preview

### The week of March 3-

U.S. Forest Service archeology lectures  
Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center,  
7 and 8:30 p.m.

### Thursday, March 6 through 8-

Theatre in the Rough's "The Complete  
Works of William  
Shakespeare  
(Abridged)"  
McPhetres Hall,  
8 p.m.

Tickets \$14 at  
Hearthside Books or \$16 at  
the door.



### Friday, March 7-

Opening of Alaska statewide art exhibi-  
tion, Earth, Fire and Fibre XXIV  
Alaska State Museum, 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### Friday, March 7-

Artwalk, downtown Juneau, various  
participating businesses and galleries  
marked by red balloons, 5 p.m.

### Friday, March 7 though 9-

Juneau Arts and  
Humanities Council  
film "The War  
Photographer"  
Gold Town  
Nickelodeon, 7 p.m.



*The Whalesong  
wishes everyone a happy  
Spring Break!*



## A frozen treat: Ice arena offers new recreation option



By Misty Stein  
Whalesong Contributor

Here's the story: I'm in class a week ago, and my fellow students tell me that they went ice-skating in the 'New Rink' on Sunday. I'm practically falling off of my chair with embarrassment. How in the world could something be built in Juneau without me knowing about it? The answer is simple: they built it on Douglas. An hour later, I found myself in my car, driving out to see this monstrosity. As I round the corner on my way to Sandy Beach, I see it. It's beautiful and hard to miss. I park and walk inside, the smell of cold ice hits my nose. The ceiling space is immense, the arena takes the center and there's stadium seating all around. "What's this? What's this?" Many of us Valley-bound students are asking with the newest addition to Juneau's available past-times: The Treadwell Ice Arena. Juneau has really taken the fun out of our unpredictable ice skating routine. Hasn't it? Aren't we all going to miss

having to shovel off the snow from our home-made rinks? With reluctance we will give up the ever-present lumps in the ice that always seemed to catch the edge of our blades. The common question "Is the ice frozen yet?" and its ever present answer:

"Not completely, we'll have to wait for tomorrow" will completely escape our vocabulary now that we have our own permanent ice-heaven.

Now don't get overly excited, because this heaven *costs*. The fares run from \$4 to \$7 bucks depending on when you come and whether or not you bring your own skates.

There's also specific time limitations on our ice-filled bliss. Not to mention they are not the most convenient times for those of us with a full schedule. But don't let this get you down. Since we, being tax-payers, paid for this addition we have the obligation to try it out. So, arm yourself with a jacket and a couple of bucks, and I'll see you out there.

## Student Spotlight: Sarah Carter rocks!

By Kaci Hamilton  
Whalesong Contributor

Sarah Carter has a bunny. Yes, I was not aware of this until my friend, Kent Scheler, told me that, instead of interviewing him for the next student profile, I should interview Sarah. Because she has a bunny! The bunny's name, by the way, is Nizina, and he apparently likes to get up close and make like he's picking fleas out of people's hair. I know, you have way too much time on your hands if you're spending your Saturday night playing monkey with the bunny. But what can I say; Kent doesn't have much of a social life.

Nizina isn't the most common name for a bunny, yet she named him after a river that flows out of the Wrangell St. Elias Mountains, up north. That's an Alaskan for you. Sarah is definitely Alaskan and definitely the outdoorsy type, as during the interview, she proceeded to tell me about the four guiding jobs that she has each summer. In fact, outdoor happenings are what brought her to Juneau.

"I came here for the rain," she says.

I immediately shout, "No way!"

Then she laughingly tells me that it was actually a job as a raft guide on the Mendenhall River for Auk Ta Shaa Discovery that brought her here from Rossland, British Columbia, three summers ago. I actually thought she said she was a lifeguard, and I had scary visions of red swimsuits and Baywatch Alaska! But besides all that crazy raft stuff, she guides for Above and Beyond Alaska, NorthStar Trekking, and drives tour buses for GoldBelt Tours.

Nonetheless, the crazy outdoor adventure doesn't stop with her. Nizina has very adventurous parents, as Sarah is married to Peter Carter, mountaineering guide and avalanche specialist with the Southeast Alaska

Avalanche Center. He can simply be described as a snow nerd.

Most people have those sappy stories about falling and whacking their head on the pavement, and then opening their eyes to the face of an angel, who they went on to marry. That's not exactly the way with these two. Sarah was on a ski trip in Jackson, Wyoming (ok, not exactly Paris!) and Peter happened to be the hot guy on the other side of the ski lift. The rest is history.

So here they are, toughing it out in Juneau, Alaska, with Sarah only a few somethings away from getting her BLA in Communications. This is apparently by accident. According to her, Sarah is on a "get school over with" program, and this was the fastest way to do it. She started off doing the whole Chinese buffet thing with the course schedule. "Oh, that looks nice, I think I'll try that ..." and "Gee, I wonder what that's all about? Let me get into that ..." So some years later, all the random choices added up to a BLA, so a girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do.

However, her true love is science. Can anyone see the husband and wife snow nerd team on the cover of *Nature* magazine a couple years from now, with an article pertaining to their groundbreaking research in Snow Science? I'm just excited that I will be able to say, "I knew them when..." Juneau not only provides a stable environment for Nizina (the bunny who has traveled 30,000 miles), it's also great for Maritime Snow Science, which will be Sarah's preferred field, when she decides to become a *real* student! A note of explanation, maritime snow science looks at coastal snowpacks, which have a greater rate of metamorphism based on increased exposure to the ever-changing

**Continued on page 8**





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## Forget Eaglecrest; OK, forget that

By Michael Johnson  
Whalesong Staff

**M**e, personally? I hate snowboarding. That's why I go to Eaglecrest. Flat terrain, slow lifts, and lame lines are the finer features of a fantastically mundane resort that UASers and Juneauites have resorted to for years. The place is pathetic; my new K2 Fatbob is *still* starving for a brash break-in after an exhilarating day on the Crest's slushy slopes.

**Q:** Then why did you, and would you, decide to go?

**A:** I wouldn't, and I never will again.

**Q:** Sounds pathetic.

**A:** (Sigh) ... It is.

Enter my buddy Joe from housing, an avid and audacious Telemarker.

**Q:** Joe, buddy, what did you think of Eaglecrest after a few lines the other day? Was that some good snow, or what?

**A:** Saturday was terrible, man, I had a hard time handling the bluebird sky and the knee-deep fluff... hey, speaking of knees, if you're a tele-er, look out for stumps. I nailed my knee into the stump of a spruce on a fat turn and all I can say is man, that \$@#-ing hurt! Freakin' commie bastard came outta nowhere. I'm alright though, but sorry ladies... I'm smitten, I'm taken. But alas, my evil heart is breaking! My baby's making to cook some bacon outta those cutlets from my heart she's taken!

Joe, not unknown for being a perversely-prose-ish, desperately-dramatic embellisher, makes little-to-no sense. This I realize. But take another good look at his message. Actually, just notice the top part. Ah, in fact, just zoom your attention way in on his description of the mountain's conditions. He poeticizes of a cloudless clime, preaching plenty of "fresh" for everyone.

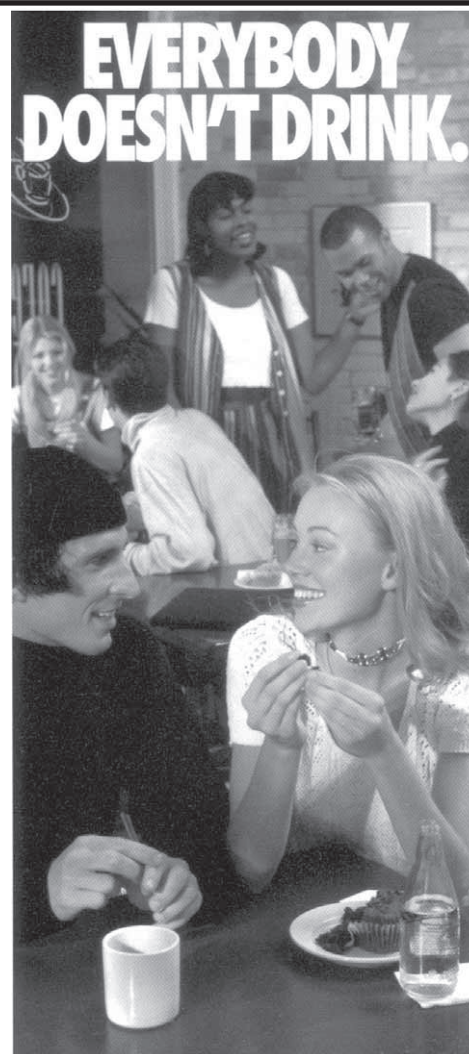
**Q:** Sounds pretty good, can I trust him?

**A:** Thrilled you asked: no, you can't.

Honestly, Joe lies all the time. Shoot, I'd clue you in to the fact that I was there with him if I thought that my vouching for him would further validate his contention. Joe wasn't lying when he said the powder was knee-deep a few Saturdays back.

Eaglecrest *was* awesome. I rode quick snowy chutes that re-instilled a sparkle in my eyes that's been missing all winter. When Juneau can scrape together a few consecutive days where the temperature stays below freezing there is no better place for a ski-bum to be.

So there it is, you nosy, prying people. I am not saying anymore. In fact, I still recommend that you leave Eaglecrest alone: I really hate waiting in line.



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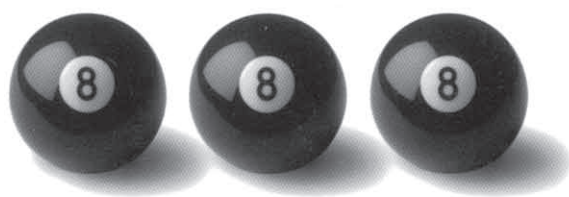
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Photo courtesy of Sarah Carter  
Communications major Sarah Carter with her pet, the infamous  
30,000-mile travelling bunny, Nizina.

### Sarah Carter continued from page 6

weather and natural elements of a moist environment. Wow, I feel so smart using those big words. Anyway, the field is now analogous to Silicon Valley when Bill Gates launched something called *Windows*.

"It's such a new and rapidly-growing field," she says, "that you would be a leader in it simply by studying a specific strength or weakness in the snowpack."

So the telephone interview is coming to a close and Sarah mentions that she'll be skiing over the weekend (she works on the ski patrol at Eaglecrest). I ask, "Do you ski or snowboard?" She does both actually, and she just learned to do a 180°.

"Well, kind of, I can't do the big jumps yet," she says.

As for her favorite conditions, she likes it when there is just enough breakable ice that the skiers are waddling, so that when you're on a snowboard, you just cruise right by.

In case you haven't realized it already, Sarah Carter rocks.

## A never-ending dilemma: PC or Mac?

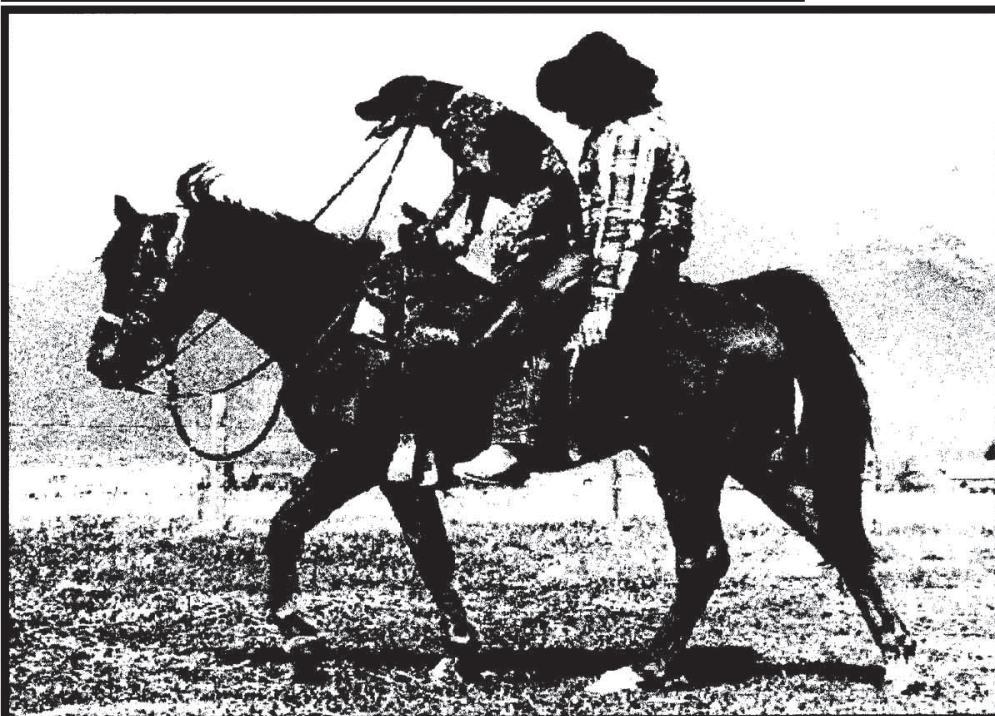
By Benjamin Nestler  
Whalesong Staff

For those of us who use the computer lab religiously, you can relate to the frustration of strolling through looking for an available PC during the afternoons. The frustration isn't that there are no computers available, but that the Mac side is hardly in use.



As it turns out, there are 12 Macs and 29 PCs available for use. After lunch on a normal weekday, use ranges from half to all the PCs while the Macs average a whopping one. I guess that most of us are PC users! Is there something that can be done about this? Can those unwieldy boxes filled with unfamiliar operating systems be traded for the majority's preference?

As it turns out, no new Macs have been purchased for over a year, while numerous PCs are purchased on a semester basis. As the world turns, these last few Macs will probably be phased out to allow for more PCs. For those of us depending on these nifty helpers for mid-terms, my advice is to get your papers done early! The lab is expected to be very crowded with procrastinating students.



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